

For Immediate Release
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NEW DATA SHOWS SAN DIEGO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE LEADS STATE IN CONVICTION RATE

Once again, the San Diego County District Attorney's Office has the most successful felony conviction rate in the state. The number one standing is confirmed by information compiled by the Judicial Council of California and released in its annual report. Based on statistics collected in fiscal year 2000-2001, the felony conviction rate in the San Diego County D.A.'s office is 91.09 %.—the highest in the state. San Diego topped the list in 1999-2000 as well.

In its 2002 Annual Report, the Judicial Council ranks the top performing district attorney offices as follows:

1. San Diego	91.09%
2. Santa Clara	89.97%
3. San Benito	89.75%
4. Riverside	88.95%
5. Merced	86.23%

District Attorney Paul J. Pfingst attributes the high conviction rate to the dedicated and talented people who work in the D.A.'s office. "We have an outstanding team of professionals here in San Diego County," said Pfingst. "I feel fortunate to have such highly skilled attorneys, investigators and support staff working on behalf of the people of this county."

Pfingst also praised local law enforcement's role in the conviction rate. "Good police work contributes to our success in the courtroom," he said. "We're proud of our good working relationship with law enforcement agencies in the county."

The Judicial Council of California is the policymaking body for the court system in California. Each year, the Council tracks caseload statistics from all over the state. Numbers are compiled and published in an annual report.